REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Eshima, No. 5,141,326.

Applicant has amended Claim 19 to expressly recite that the step of transporting solid plastic material from the solid matter channel to the melt channel is through a longitudinal groove in the inner surface of the barrel in the area of the melting zone. The cited art of record does not teach or suggest this technique. Accordingly, Claims 19-21 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 8, 2004

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